

THE VIRGIN MARY IN THE KINGDOM

APPENDIX - MEDITATION 1

The Visitation *(P304)*

"My mother, I love you; love me too. Increase in my soul the Will of God, and grant me your blessing also, so that I may do all my actions under your maternal gaze."

The soul to its Heavenly Mother:

Heavenly Mother, this poor child of yours deeply yearns to be with you!

Since you are the mother of Jesus and my mother, I feel compelled to be close to you and remain at your side in order to follow your steps after which I am to pattern mine.

Holy Mother, lend me your hand and take me with you so that I may learn how to conduct myself well in life while carrying out my various tasks.

Lesson of the Queen of Heaven:

Blessed child, how sweet your company is!

Seeing you want to follow and imitate me, refreshes me amidst the flames of love that consume me.

Indeed having you near me allows me to more easily instruct you on how to live in the Divine Will.

While you follow me, be sure to listen closely to what I wish to tell you.

No sooner did I become the mother of Jesus and your mother, than my seas of love redoubled and, unable to contain them all, I felt the ardent desire to pour them out in souls and expand them, and become for souls the first bearer of Jesus, even at the cost of great sacrifices...

And what were these sacrifices?

For one who truly loves, sacrifices and sorrows become refreshments and consolations, as they are the outpourings of the love one possesses.

Oh, my child, if you do not experience the good that derives from offering up a sacrifice or experience its most intimate joys, it is a sign that divine love does not completely fill your soul, and therefore the Divine Will does not reign in you as its queen.

For the Divine Will alone gives such power to the soul as to render it invincible and capable of enduring any sorrow.

Place your hand upon your heart, and observe how many voids of love are in it.

Now reflect on what you observe:

That secret self-esteem;

disturbance at the slightest adversity;

those tiny attachments you feel to things and to people;

tardiness in doing good;

the restlessness you feel when things do not go your way,

are equivalent to many voids of love in your heart - voids which, like little fevers, zap you of the strength and the holy desire that one needs in order to be filled with the Divine Will.

Oh, if only you were to fill these voids with love, you too would feel the refreshing and conquering virtue in your sacrifices.

My child, lend me your hand and follow me as I now offer you my next lesson.

I left Nazareth accompanied by Saint Joseph, facing a long journey of crossing mountains to go visit Elisabeth in Judea who, in her advanced age, had miraculously become a mother.

I went to see her, not simply to pay her a visit, but because my heart was set ablaze with the desire to bring Jesus to her.

The fullness of grace, love and light which I felt in me, compelled me to bring Jesus to her and to multiply to a hundredfold the life of my Son in souls.

Yes, my child, the motherly love I possessed for all souls and for you in particular, was so great that I felt ardent yearnings to give my dear Jesus to everyone, so that all might possess him and love him.

The rightful claims I had to motherhood, bequeathed to me by the Fiat, enriched me with such power that the same Fiat operating in me multiplied Jesus for as many times as there are souls who desire to receive him.

This was the greatest miracle given me to perform:¹³³

¹³³If Mary worked this greatest miracle in her life to the unawares of those around her, Luisa adds that Mary never performed any “visible” miracles in her life: “If in life our great Heavenly Mother did not perform any visible miracles, either of healings or of raising the dead, she nevertheless performed, and continues to perform miracles at each moment, at every hour and every day” (L. Piccarreta, volume 22, June 1, 1927).¹³³

To have Jesus always available in order to give him to whoever should desire him. And I was so happy to do this!

How I yearn that you too, my child, in approaching and visiting others, would always be the bearer of Jesus, capable of making him known and yearning to make him loved by others.

After many days of travel, we finally arrived in Judea, and I hastened to the house of Elisabeth.

She approached me rejoicing, and when I greeted her amazing things happened.

My little Jesus exulted in my womb and directing the rays of his divinity toward little John in the womb of his mother; He sanctified him and infused within him the use of reason, letting him know that He, my little Jesus, was the Son of God.

And John leaped so forcefully with love and joy that Elisabeth was shaken.

Touched by the light of the divinity of my Son, she acknowledged that I had become the Mother of God.

In her vehemence of love she trembled with gratitude and exclaimed:

“Who am I to be so honoured that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”

Because I could not deny the greatest mystery of the Incarnation, I humbly confirmed it, praising God with the song of the Magnificat – the sublime canticle through which the Church continuously honours me.

I announced that the Lord had done great things in me,¹³⁴ his servant, and therefore that all generations would call me blessed.

¹³⁴Noteworthy is the expression “has done great things *in me*”, which conveys the reality of the Trinity establishing “in” Mary’s soul the Kingdom of the Divine Will, which comprises all the lives and acts of all creature.¹³⁴

My child, I was set ablaze with the ardent desire to unleash the flames of love that consumed me and reveal my secret to Elisabeth, who also longed for the coming of the Messiah.

For a secret is a need of the heart which is irresistibly revealed to those capable of understanding.

Now who could adequately describe the great blessing my visit imparted to Elisabeth, to John in her womb and to their household?

Everyone was sanctified, filled with gladness, experienced unusual joys and comprehended things unheard of.

John, in particular, received all the grace necessary to prepare him to be the precursor of my Son.

Dearest child, the Divine Will does great and unheard-of things wherever it reigns.

If I worked many prodigies it was because the Divine Will occupied its royal place in my soul.

And if you let the Divine Will reign in your soul, you too will become the bearer of Jesus to other souls – you too will feel the irresistible desire to give him to everyone!

The soul:

Holy Mother, I thank you so much for your beautiful lessons!

I feel that they have such power over me as to make me yearn continuously to live in the Divine Will.

But to obtain this grace, I entreat you to come; descend into my soul together with Jesus; renew in me the visit you made to Saint Elisabeth and the prodigies you worked for her.¹³⁵

¹³⁵**Such prodigies wrought by Christ through Mary included the sanctification of John in Elisabeth's womb, the loosening of the tongue of her husband Zachariah (who was alone permitted by the Mosaic Law to impart a name to their son), an increase of grace among Elisabeth's household, etc.**¹³⁵

Dear mother, bring Jesus to me as you brought him to Elizabeth and sanctify me as you sanctified John in her womb.

With Jesus I will be able to do his Most Holy Will.

Aspiration:

To honour me, recite the Magnificat three times in thanksgiving for the visit I made to Saint Elisabeth.

Exclamation:

Holy Mother, visit my soul and prepare in it a worthy dwelling for the Divine Will.

The Magnificat - Luke 1:45-55

My soul rejoices in the Lord

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength
and scatters the proud-hearted.
He casts the mighty from their thrones
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant.
remembering his mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his sons for ever.